FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 AUGUST 1984

Maghreb

Following the 13 August meeting in Morocco between Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Moroccan King Hassan II, Morocco and Libya agreed to establish a "federation," which will become effective after approval by each nation's people, according to a communique broadcast by Tripoli and Rabat radios. Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio disclosed that Libya will submit the treaty to the basic popular conferences for approval, while Morocco will hold a plebiscite on the issue. Al-Qadhdhafi departed for Algeria the same day, the radio added, and then arrived in Tunisia the following day. In Tunisia, he participated in a meeting with the Tunisian prime minister and foreign and defense ministers, and the Moroccan king's adviser, Tunis radio reported. Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio noted that Al-Qadhdhafi briefed Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and the Tunisian leaders on his agreement with Morocco, and that the step was "blessed" by all parties. Al-Qadhdhafi also announced before leaving Tunis that Libya and Algeria have begun unity talks, KUNA reported.

In other diplomatic developments, Bendjedid received Mauritanian Government Minister Ahmed Ould Minnih, and then FLN party official Mohamed Cherif Messaadia before the latter's departure for Tunis as special envoy to Tunisian president Habib Bourguiba, Algiers radio reported.

Iran

The Majlis approved 15 cabinet ministers in individual votes of confidence but rejected the ministers of defense, education, culture and higher education, health, and industries, IRNA reported.

Red Sea Explosions

The explosions in the Red Sea were caused by devices placed on the seabed that explode from the pressure caused by ships passing overhead, Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim abu Ghazalah stated in remarks reported by MENA. In related remarks cited by the agency, the director of the Suez Canal authority said the charges that exploded were insufficiently powerful to be called mines. The explosions have prompted only a "very slight" decrease in shipping through the Suez Canal, which is safe for navigation, the director asserted.

Meanwhile, Lloyd's Insurance Company disclosed that three mines have been found in the southern part of the Red Sea, according to AFP.

Israel-Syria

HADASHOT cited Danish press reports of a secret Israeli-Syrian agreement to permit arms shipments from Israel to Iran via Syria.

Lebanon

The Progressive Socialist Party and the Amal movement affirmed their goals to strengthen their alliance, support the struggle against the Israeli presence in the south, support the "steadfastness" in the mountain and Beirut areas, and reform and solve all other remaining national problems, according to a joint statement cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio.

Meanwhile, a political source "close to Damascus" cited by Voice of Lebanon radio stated that the security plan for the mountain has reached a deadlock because of the great differences in views among the parties concerned. Syria is concerned about the recent developments in Lebanon, the source added. While contacts on a security plan for the mountain area continued, clashes occurred there for a few hours, the Voice of Lebanon noted.

DRA

Afghan warplanes violated Pakistan's airspace for the second time in 24 hours, killing at least 12 people in an attack on 2 border villages near Parachinar, AFP reported citing sources in Islamabad.

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Karmal on Army's Role in Fighting Imperialism

LD142151 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The BAKHTAR information agency reports that on 12 August Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, took part in a broad meeting of the consultative board of the DRA Ministry of National Defense, including heads of departments of the Defense Ministry, commanders of Army corps, divisions, brigades, regiments, and their political heads. At this meeting Babrak Karmal delivered an instructive and detailed speech on the Army of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the crushing of counterrevolutionary groups — send from abroad — by the country's heroic Armed Forces, on major national and international issues, and on ways of solving current problems.

Babrak Karmal said in part:

Our people are carrying out their sacred national and revolutionary duties in a difficult regional and international situation and in the presence of the aggressive and militaristic policy of U.S. imperialism and its allies.

Today, more than ever, the international situation has reached an explosive level, endangering peace and security, as a result of U.S. policy, which threatens a destructive nuclear war. Imperialist countries, headed by the U.S. Administration, are blocking the desire of the peoples to chose the path of development and progress and are not trying to reverse the course of events. They barbarically expand the arms race and threaten peace.

To achieve this aim, they employ destructive, conspiratorial, and aggressive methods and shamelessly ignore all accepted international norms and principles. It is by following such an adventurist and aggressive policy that the Reagan administration counts almost all of the world, including the Middle and Near East, southern and Southeast Asia and the Far East, including our beloved and revolutionary country, Afghanistan, as part of its zone of vital interests, and is striving to impose the superiority of the U.S. military empire on the people of the world.

On the contrary, of course, the main objective of the Soviet Union's countermeasures is to not allow U.S. imperialism to disturb the present balance and to prevent it from gaining military superiority. The Soviet Union is firmly standing, as a strong fortress, in defense of peace and security in the world and in defense of mankind and civilization.

Imperialists are trying in vain to impose their will on socialist countries by intensifying the arms race. In this direction, by ignoring the will of the people of Western Europe, the United States has deployed medium-range nuclear missiles on their territory and, in fact, has transformed these countries into tools of its aggressive policy. The sinister militaristic plans of U.S. imperialism drag our region toward dangerous and catastrophic tension.

The vivid manifestation of this dangerous policy lies in the existence of the Central Command, CENTCOM, and the huge military aid to Pakistan's militaristic regime. U.S. imperialism wants to transform Pakistan into the region's police force and a base for aggression against the liberation movements in the region. Right now, Pakistan has been made into the center of aggression against Afghanisan. If, to this centre of conspiracy and aggression, we add the unfriendly, anti-Islamic, and inhuman interference and provocations by the reactionary circles of Iran, we can see that great historical and (?national) tasks lie ahead of the DRA Armed Forces, especially our liberation Army, in defense of the independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of our beloved country, revolutionary Afghanistan, and the gains of the April Revolution. Complete defeat for the policy of undeclared war of imperialism, regional reaction, and hegemonism against revolutionary Afghanistan and strict, vital, and reliable defense of the independence of our proud and ancient country is the order of the day for our people and the Government of the DRA.

Under such conditions, more than ever before, the strengthening of the combat readiness, power, and mobility of our Armed Forces becomes more important. Under the present conditions, the political and combat training and education of the personnel, the enhancement of the professional level of leading and directing cadres, and the enhancement of the activities of the DRA Armed Forces in the struggle against the counterrevolutionaries infiltrated from abroad, are at the top of our tasks. The PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Revolutionary Council and Government attach fundamental attention to the qualitative and quantative strengthening of the Armed Forces.

Assessing the country's Armed Forces from the military and professional standpoint, Babrak Karmal said: The results of the combat activities of the DRA Army during this year shows that the combat capability, morality, and the level of political awareness and revolutionary vigilance of the units and companies have risen considerably in comparison to previous years. The victories gained indicates the loyalty of our officers and troops to the April Revolution, who fearlessly fight against the counterrevolution. The political workers and commanders have set a good example for the troops in achieving these victories. Our Army has the quantitative logistical support to successfully achieve all tasks entrusted to them in crushing the counterrevolution. Now great effort and attention should be devoted to achieving the high professional and political level of the Army units and companies.

The liberating Army of the DRA is a revolutionary Army, a patriotic Army, an Army of the new era and an Army belonging to the people and in contact with the people. Therefore, it is necessary that all efforts be made to further the education and training of the Army, particularly those officers and NCO's who have displayed courage and heroism in armed struggle against the counterrevolution and who often come from the peasants and working class. In this way their practical learning should be complemented by their effective modern Army education and art.

Babrak Karmal then added: I draw your attention to the importance of responsible and precise work with the cadres as one of the conditions for strengthening the combat capability of the Armed Forces. You, the leaders of the Army, who have the duty of training officers cadres loyal to the April Revolution, ought to

utilize the maximum limit of party responsibility, political awareness, initiative, and precision in selecting the cadres.

In conclusion, Babrak Karmal said: I am completely confident that the DRA Armed Forces, with heroism and suitability and with a high level of national patriotic awareness, are heroically fighting to safeguard and consolidate the independence of our dear homeland — we are on the eve of the 65th anniversary of the restoration of its independence — and to defend every inch of the soil of the homeland, and are engaged in realizing the heroic and humane aspirations of the heroes of Afghan independence with a new revolutionary and progressive content.

The people of our country and our heroic Armed Forces — with the (?intensification) of revolutionary work and struggle, under the unquestionable leadership of the PDPA and on the threshold of the 20th anniversary of the formation of the PDPA, this patriotic and internationalist party, this party in the service of the people and homeland and a leading force of our Afghan society — are preparing for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the formation of the PDPA under the slogan: the coordination of all forces toward the complete elimination of the counterrevolution, the consolidation of party ranks. We have complete confidence that our heroic Armed Forces are able to defend the peaceful work of the people and to play its important and great role in maintaining nationwide peace and security in our dear homeland.

It is timely to again, in an Afghan manner, express thanks for the selfless, fraternal, and internationalist assistance of the Soviet Union, which consistently has been extended to the people of Afghanistan to ensure the freedom and progress of our country and the consolidation of the national sovereignty of our homeland — free, independent, and neutral Afghanistan — from the Great October Socialist Revolution until today.

The expression of gratitude for the assistance of the fraternal Soviet Union was accompanied by fervent applause by the commanders, political chiefs, and the rest of the audience, who rose to its feet. In conclusion, all commanders and political chiefs of the DRA liberating Army rose to their feet and, with one voice filled with high patriotic spirit and revolutionary solidarity, renewed their military and political pledges before the supreme commander of the DRA Armed Forces, Babrak Karmal. The meeting, which was held in the headquarters of the Armed Forces, concluded with slogans and shouts for the solidarity and unity of the PDPA.

Karmal Praises Soviet Middle East Proposals

LD140711 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 13, BAKHTAR — "The Soviet Union showed once again its staunch and unshakable Leninist principle in its foreign policy regarding its aspiration for attaining all-sided, just and durable peace in the middle East."

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of Revolutionary Council of the DRA, answering a question posed by Soviet journalists.

The Soviet policy, Babrak Karmal added, is directed towards the removal of the continuing explosive situation in this region of the earth. Consistency and realism constitute the main characteristic of the Soviet new proposals, he said.

General secretary of the PDPA CC pointed out that these proposals are in accord with the decisions of United Nations organisation and have taken into account the vital interest of the peoples in the Middle East as well as the overall interntional security. Thus, the proposals have been warmly praised and supported by all peaceful and progressive forces of the world.

The Soviet Union has in particular declared illegal the occupation of foreign land and has proposed that the realistic and constructive way for solving the Middle East problem is through the joint efforts of all interested sides. In other words, the Soviet Union has proposed the solution of the problem through talks in the framework of a special international conference due to be held in this connection.

Indeed, the existing differences and conflicts in the region cannot be solved by the policy of strength of separate collusion [as received] followed by the United States but only by a comprehensive talks.

The new Soviet proposals and the practical Soviet measures for the normalisation of the situation in the Middle East is quite contrary to the strivings of Reagan administration for the imposition of its wishes on other countries and access to the further strengthening of U.S.-Israel alliance.

This policy of Washington not only has been denounced by the social circles of the Arabs and the world but has been ever-further [as received] faced with defeat. Withdrawal of U.S. infantry and sea contingents from Beirut can be cited as an example.

This means a fiasco of U.S. policy in the compulsory imposition of its own way regarding the question of independent Lebanon.

The proposal of the Soviet Union regarding the beginning of the solution of the situation for the return of the Arab land, occupied illegally by Israel, is natural and logical.

Undoubtedly, it is a key question and if not solved according to the known decisions of UNO, the ensuing measures for maintaining a just and durable peace is not possible. The continued occupation of Golan Heights, western coast of Jordan River, Gaza Strip and Lebanese lands cannot be interpreted anything else but the trampling down of all international laws and being a contempt to general public opinion.

Babrak Karmal emphasized that the people of Afghanistan like the people of other Islamic countries express their sympathy with their Arab brothers who are the victims of Israel's aggression and the occupying policy and want that the occupied Arab territory be evacuated by Israel as soon as possible.

The people of Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal stressed, sincerely support the Soviet proposal in ensuring the established right of Palestinians in determining their own destiny and in creating their independent state in their land which is to be rescued from

Israeli occupation and regard the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) being their sole legal representative.

It is quite natural that the eastern part of Jerusalem, where one of the sacred Islamic places, Masjid al-Aqsa, is located, and is presently difficult to get access to it must become an inalienable part of Palestine state.

As the Soviet Union justly points out the solution of these major problems will open the path for the establishment of peace and security and the independent growth of all the states involved in the Middle East conflict. International guarantees, formulated and approved for observing conditions of such settlement in order to ensure the attained results, the attained accords in the Middle East conference should form a general rule to be corroborated by the participants of the conference.

The aspirations of the people of the Middle East are as valuable for Afghanistan as it is for the Soviet Union.

Like the Soviet Union, Afghanistan endeavours that these people should live in an atmosphere of peace and good neighbourliness, recognising each other's established rights and paying mutual respect to the national sovereignty, independence and the territorial integrity of one another by all the countries of the region.

The DRA cannot remain indifferent vis-a-vis the events of this part of the earth because, on the one hand, the historical and cultural interests link the two countries and, on the other hand, the region is situated near the border of Afghanistan.

For this reason, the people of Afghanistan, the PDPA and the Government of the DRA hold in high esteem the new proposals on the Middle East as a realistic and reliable way for ensuring peace and security in the region and in view of its own foriegn policy would help in its practical implementation.

Successful Operations in Parvan, Balkh, Paktia

LD141705 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] According to a report from a responsible source in the country's security forces, a number of counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and one DSHK belonging to them, along with five assorted weapons, were destroyed recently as a result of successful operations by the security forces in the villages of Parvan Province.

Similarly, during a security force operation in the Balkh District, Balkh Province, a number of counterrevolutionaries were crushed and 1 mortar; 1 DSHK; 11 assorted weapons; 1 rocket launcher with ammunition; 4 anti-tank mines; 1 machine gun; a quantity of euqipment; 1 loudspeaker; and 2 trucks were seized by the security forces.

Another report says that as a result of successful operations by the vigilant security forces in the villages of Paktia Province, 38 counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and an quantity of weapons and equipment including 3 DSHK's and 1 ZK-1 were seized by the security forces.

Mujahidin Leader Says Factions Clashing

GF141926 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Aug 84 p 10

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 11 — Commander Arshad Ahmad Zakaria, who is the head of the United National Islamic Liberation Front of Afghanistan and claims to be a third cousin of the ex-king, Zahir Shah, has said that the complexity of the Afghanistan problem had not only caused disturbances among the ruling party members of his motherland, but had also harmed the unity of various 'freedom fighting' groups.

The differences among the Afghan 'freedom fighters' had resulted in a number of casualties, he added. In this connection, he referred to clashes that took place in Laqman, Badakhshan, Jalalabad and Saroomi areas.

Commander Zakaria said that in the said areas, clashes took place among the groups of Hez be-Eslami, Golbeddin Hekmatyar, Mowlavi Yunes Khales and Jamiat-i-Ostad Rabbani, and led to the killing of many 'freedom fighters' of all factions.

He claimed that a number of Soviet and Karmal agents had entered Pakistan in the garb of refugees and were working for the Soviet cause. He added that he had reported their presence to the Pakistani officials, and could identify them.

He also stated that arms smuggling from Afghanistan to Pakistan had been going on for a long time. Previously, arms could only be bought from tribal areas of Pakistan, but now one could purchase all kinds of weapons, from light ones to missiles, from the arms black market.

Commander Zakaria also pointed out that Babrak Karmal was of great value to the Soviets, and they could not afford to lose him.

Gandhi Delivers Independence Day Address

BK150736 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0202 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Address by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to nation from ramparts of Red Fort in New Delhi — live in Hindi]

[Excerpts] Fellow Indian citizens, brothers, sisters, elders, and dear children:

We come here every 15 August. This is not a festival, but we gather in memory of those brave persons who suffered many hardships during the long war of independence, even sacrificing their lives.

Today we are happy that we are independent. Our hearts are not filled with happiness alone, however, but also with deep sorrow and anxiety. It is saddening that we have not learned from our history and that some forces have emerged spreading poison in the country which could threaten the unity of the country. I will recall that communal riots, fomented in the name of religion and in which many innocent lives have been lost and property damaged, have a national dimension — politics are also involved in them. There are economic reasons behind them, and some persons' meanness and wickedness are also in the picture.

Communal riots have taken place in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh. Other incidents have taken place in other states as well. The sorrow caused by this is not that of an individual or a family, but that of the entire nation, entire India, and it is a blot on the fabric of entire India. It is the responsibility of all of us to understand and see these things and root them out. Differences are bound to exist, especially as the democratic traditions we have adopted cause (?many) differences. This does not mean we cannot arise above them. We must rise above politics, party politics, and other differences among us for one objective; that is, to keep this country one. If we are not united and the country not strong, where will these differences lead us? With whom we will fight or forge friendship when there is nobody? So, brothers and sisters, if the country falls, we will all fall with it; nobody can escape.

When we fought for independence, we fought not only for political freedom, but for social justice, equality, and economic justice as well. One (?chapter) is concluded; another is continuing. The path is long and difficult and the enemy which was once clearly visible is today working clandestinely. Some enemies are real, but many persons become misguided without pondering and because of some people's talks.

Today, everyone's mind is exercised by Punjab. I do not want to narrate the story of Punjab, which I have told many times, but because some false propaganda is being spread, I would like to say something later on it.

Now I want to say that movements launched in this or that province may have started with a certain idea, but were later infiltrated by outside elements who had no demands or whose demands were connected with the movement and gave their own turn to the movement and introduced violence, strikes, arson, and all types of evil in it; those who launched the movement lost control of it. The same thing happened in Punjab. Propaganda has been launched — especially what I saw in the foreign press and television is as if we never held a dialogue on the demands. All of you know that protracted negotiations were held and there were obstacles on very few points. Our policy, both within and outside the country, has always been to reach agreement and to forge friendship as far as possible. This policy has been taught by Mahatama Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, and Maulana Azad. There is no question of fighting from our side.

From the beginning, I have always heard the demand and met the person — either my colleague or my opponent — who has any demand. I have tried my utmost to fulfill the demands, but my powers are also limited; means are limited; rupees are limited; we have to work under these limitations. Secondly, sometimes there are demands that are liked by some persons but anger others and cause disturbances in other provinces. That is why we have to proceed carefully, and I request those who put forward demands — whether in the name of province, religion, language, or any other reason — that while viewing it from their own angle, to also look around and see whether fulfilling their demands would create hardships for others or create economic and other difficulties for India which could weaken or put pressure on it, because if such economic hardships are faced by us, those who make the demands will also face them.

In our plans we have kept everybody in view and we have endeavored to help all sections of the people and all provinces so that progress could be achieved and development work could proceed.

Now, there is talk about center-state relations. We have also said this can be discussed and I am confident an agreement can be easily reached if we hold negotiations honestly. The amount of money transferred to the states from the center has now reached 12,000 crore against 500 crore in 1960-61. Even with this increase, neither the states nor the central (?departments) are satisfied. All say they are getting less. That is correct; they get less than they need. However, as you may see in any country, even in the richest countries, not all persons' demands are met.

Demands will always exist and further increase. We must see that in fulfilling demands of those who are prosperous, who are in a better position than others, the demands of the poor, suppressed, and weak are not neglected. They should not become weaker. Instead, if the poor become strong, the entire nation will be strong, and only then will the more prosperous people be able to increase their strength. I believe that if they increase their strength, they will do so not for their own interest but for the well-being of the country, to help those who are weaker than they, and to carry the nation forward in all respects. Therefore, it has been my full endeavor to help the weak.

In addition to the responsibility for my own country, another major responsibility for some foreign nations has also fallen on me. The people call this responsibility leadership, but I am not fond of being a leader. I say I have received the opportunity nevertheless to serve some 101 nations. However, I am forced to say that differences exist in our ranks. War is continuing in some countries and we could not halt it, but we are continuing our efforts. Take the case of the war between Iran and Iraq. We are

in continuous touch with leaders of these countries. We are exchanging letters with other nations to learn what can be done in this regard. Many people have come here. Our officials have also gone to these countries and to other countries on many occasions to discuss this issue. We are continuing our full efforts. There are also other countries where conflicts exist.

Recently, a conflict arose in our neighborhood. As you know, our policy has always been of friendship and we have spared no effort to further strengthen the friendship, whether with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, or Sri Lanka — our immediate neighbors. Many years ago, during the prime ministership of Jawaharlal Nehru, Pakistan suggested a no-war pact. I and the late Shastriji [India's second prime minister] repeated this thing in various forms, but they continued to reject it. Then what happened? A few years ago, when I became prime minister this time, they stressed that such a pact should be signed. However, they did so when they had already received sophisticated and powerful weapons.

We are not against this pact; we ourselves want it. However, I asked: Now that you are raising this proposal after having rejected it for so long, should not a conducive atmosphere be created for this and can we not enter into a treaty of friendship, cooperation, and peace? If we conclude this treaty, there will, naturally, be no war. As we know, all these things have already been laid down in the Simla agreement, which bears signatures of the two countries. If they do not want this agreement, another agreement of the same type should be signed. However, if they say they will sign the no-war pact, but not the treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation, then I ask you — my brothers and sisters — how can it be feasible? There is no doubt that we are still continuing our efforts. It is a matter of regret that even now whatever is said about India on Pakistan's television and in newspapers is far from the truth. We can say that this is an interference in our internal affairs. We have been talking to them in a very civilized and friendly manner, but can any government ignore India's prestige and interest?

The situation in Sri Lanka today is very grave and saddening. My heart is full of tears for those innocent people who have done nothing but are being attacked in such a manner. There, also, extremists and terrorists exist, and obviously any government has to face them. However the manner in which a nationality has been attacked for many years has, instead of bringing peace, worsened the situation there.

We do not want to interfere. We do not want to put any type of obstacle in the unity of another country. This is not in our own interest. We want our neighboring countries to remain stable, strong, and be our friends. That is why we extended the hand of friendship and said if we could help so that you could hold negotiations and achieve some results acceptable to all, it would be beneficial for you and we would be spared a crisis. What is our crisis? The grief is shared by all India, but our Tamil brothers' sorrow and difficulties are more than this. Forty thousand refugees (?have come from there). Now, other people could come among them, including spies and outsiders, and we do not know about them. Our borders are such that we cannot always screen them despite the best of efforts. However, we are trying. Patrolling has been increased.

That is why I requested the Sri Lankan president to sit down and talk somehow or another. He agreed to this and we had hoped that perhaps because of his leadership this thing would make progress and an agreement would be reached. However, so far whenever we open a newspaper we read only about mishaps. Our entire attention is devoted to this and we fully sympathize with the difficulties of these people.

Threats from oceans which are all around us have not diminished. When I repeatedly describe outside threats and outside things, as I said, it is not to divert attention from difficulties here, but because we have to solve our problems and strengthen our internal unity as soon as possible to face all these threats. The country will not be strengthened by accusing each other or by hurting the morale of our police or accusing our Armed Forces. Our soldiers courageously faced many attacks on our country and sacrificed their lives. Whenever the country was faced with a crisis caused by floods or any other reason, they become peacetime warriors to help the people. How can we not praise them?

Why was Mahatma Gandhi's movement — the last phase of which began on 9 August and which we celebrate every year — successful? Not because of violence, hatred, or animosity with any other. Our enmity was not with the British or the United Kingdom, but with imperialism. Our fight was with imperialism. Even today, when we see imperialism in any form, we continue to fight it. Take the example of South Africa. There are Indians as well as native South Africans who do not enjoy freedom, not even the basic human rights. Why should we not raise our voice for them? These are things you have to consider. As a great leader said: If even one person is imprisoned, I am also imprisoned; if any country is enslaved, the shadow of this slavery also falls upon us.

Freedom and peace should prevail everywhere. India is striving for peace. Recently, I, along with the presidents or prime ministers of five other countries, appealed to the rest of the world that even 1 percent of the nuclear arms now stockpiled is sufficient to destroy the entire world and all humanity. People are still manufacturing and stockpiling nuclear arms, but they are placing blame on India. India has the capability — not major but only minor — to manufacture. Even so, our scientists have shown they can do it. What for? Not for manufacturing bombs — we do not possess any bomb — but for generating electricity, to help our farmers, to use it in treating diseases. This is our program whether it relates to space, promotion of sports, or development of science, and this can never be possible if our youths do not come forward. If they had no knowledge or capability, we could not have succeeded. All these works we are doing are directed to lessen, to some extent, the hardships of the poor and the middle classes of India. We want to acquire some knowledge to help them further.

Minister on Exchange of Fire at Pakistan Border

BK141604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was told that there have been some cases of exchange of fire between Pakistan and Indian troops in the

Ladakh region. The minister of state for defense, Mr K.P. Singh Deo, said that some Pakistani troops recently attacked one of the Indian posts in the area. It was unprovoked and was repulsed.

3 Persons Killed in Police Firing in Orissa

BK150815 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] In Orissa, three persons were killed in police firing during a bundh [strike] yesterday. The police resorted to firing to disperse a violent mob which was trying to set fire to the police stations of Kakatpur, Chandanpur, and (Ashtarang) in Puri District.

4 Andhra Pradesh State Ministers Resign

BK150825 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Four Andhra Pradesh ministers have resigned. They are the finance minister, Mr N. Bhaskara Rao; the health minister, Mr S. Ramamuni Reddy; the excise minister, Mr T. Jeevan Reddy; and the transport minister, Mr S. Satyanarayana. The government whip, Mr M. Krishna Rao, also announced his resignation.

Mr Bhaskara Rao told our Hyderabad correspondent, (Sriniwasa Rao), that he does not want to associate with the government which is always engaged in confrontation with the center. Mr Rao also said that he is not resigning from the Telugu Desam since he himself had founded the party.

Our correspondent adds that a Raj Bhavan [Governor's House] communique issued last night, however, said that Mr Bhaskara Rao had been dismissed by the governor on the advice of the chief minister.

Ministers Report on Kalpakkam Power Plant

BK131018 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The first unit of the Kalpakkam atomic power station in Tamil Nadu commissioned last year generated 502 million units of electricity during April to July last. Stating this in the Rajya Sabha, the minister of state for energy, Mr Arif Mohammad Khan, said the entire power from this unit goes to Tamil Nadu.

Intervening, the energy minister, Mr Shiv Shankar, said 10 percent of power generated goes to the state in which the power station is situated, 15 percent remains for the center, and 75 percent is allocated to other states in the region.

AFP Reports on Second Afghan Bomb Attack

BK141632 Hong Kong AFP in English 1623 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 14 (AFP) — Afghan jets today intruded over Pakistani territory for the second time in 24 hours, bombing two border villages in the Parachinar area and killing at least a dozen persons, reliable reports here said.

Official sources confirmed the raids but the exact death toll was not immediately available. They said details were awaited from the area located about 400 kms north west of here.

Reliable sources said that the Soviet built Afghan jets strafed and bombed two villages in the Paiwar area of Parachinar where yesterday's bombing killed one person and wounded five women.

Official sources said the bombing was "fairly inside" Pakistani territory and about 10 to 15 miles (16 to 24 kms) from Pakistani border posts.

Sources in Peshawar said the Afghan jets remained in Pakistani territory for some time, dropping several bombs.

The raid follows yesterday's warning by Pakistan to the Afghan charge d'affairs that a repetition of an Afghan incursion would result in "serious consequences."

Afghan Envoy Summoned

BK150341 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Two Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan airspace in (?Sahari Mangal) 12 km northwest of Parachinar yesterday at 1000 [0500 GMT].

It has been officially stated in Islamabad that one [as heard] Afghan aircraft penetrated Pakistani territory at (?Sahari Mangal) post near Ali Mangai and dropped two bombs as a result of which 13 persons were killed and 5 injured, 3 of them seriously.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the foreign office last night, and a strong protest was lodged against the violation of Pakistan airspace by the Afghan aircraft and barbaric bombing of Pakistani territory resulting in heavy loss of human lives.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was told that this was the second violation of Pakistan's airspace within the last 24 hours which has resulted in loss of lives. He was told that this type of incident will have very adverse effects on the forthcoming UN supervised indirect talks in Geneva between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The charge d'affaires was also told that Pakistan has taken a very strong note of such incidents and the Kabul administration should immediately refrain from violating Pakistan's airspace, otherwise they will be responsible for the consequences.

The permanent representative of Pakistan at the United Nations has been instructed to apprise the UN secretary general about this latest airspace violation from the Afghan side.

Foreign Minister Departs for Jidda Meeting

BK141646 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for Jidda this afternoon to preside over the conference of Pakistani envoys of the Gulf region. He will later visit Qatar and Kuwait as well.

Prior to his departure, the foreign minister told newsmen that the conference will review trade and economic issues and views will be exchanged on regional political issues of special interest. The conference will also review welfare measures for Pakistanis residing in the Middle East.

The foreign minister said that he will brief the envoys on Pakistan's relations with India, the forthcoming Geneva talks on Afghanistan, and on his visits to China and Western Europe.

He said that he will also meet the Saudi foreign minister, Prince Al Sa'ud al-Faysal. The foreign minister will meet his Kuwaiti and Qatari counterparts in their respective countries.

He will also meet the amir of Qatar in Doha. The meeting will be held in continuation of the Qatari amir's recent visit to Pakistan, during which he held talks with the Pakistani president on strengthening bilateral relations.

Economic Delegation Leaves for Romanian Visit

BK150835 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] A high-powered Pakistani economic delegation left Karachi for Bucharest this morning on a 10-day visit to Romania. The delegation will review measures to develop bilateral trade.

The adviser on foreign trade, Mr Hamid D. Habib, is leading the delegation. The visit is part of the formal exchanges of visits which representatives of the two countries undertake from time to time to increase bilateral trade.

Ambassadors to Soviet Union, Tunisia Named

BK150829 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Mr Shahid M. Amin has been appointed as Pakistan's ambassador to the Soviet Union, and Mr S.A.D. Bukhari has been appointed as Pakistan's ambassador to Tunisia.

SRI LANKA

Reportage on Army Rampage in Town of Mannar

Government To Repair Shops

BK151113 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, told a news conference in Colombo yesterday that all the shops that were damaged at Mannar in recent incidents which took place there would be repaired at government expenses with the assistance of the Army. He said that the government had taken this decision irrespective of the fact of whoever was responsible for the damage. The minister announced that Transport Minister M.H. Mohamed was just to Mannar [as heard] to make on the spot inquiries into these incidents and to find out who was responsible for the damage.

Transport Minister M.H. Mohamed, who returned from Mannar yesterday evening told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation that he had a meeting at the Mannar Kachahri [court of justice] which was attended by the government agent and the district minsiter, M.E.H. Mahroof and those who were affected. He said he visited Mannar and also met the service personnel there. He said that he would hand over the report to the government today.

The national security minister told newsmen of two incidents that took place in Jaffna yesterday where the terrorists attacked the police stations at Kayts and Velvettithurai. The terrorists attacked the Kayts police station on Monday as well. In both these attacks, when police fired the terrorists withdrew. There were no casualties on the side of the security forces. He also said that no foreign correspondents were barred from entering Jaffna. Sri Lanka is a democratic country and anyone could go anywhere they liked.

BBC on Army Rampage

BK150118 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Mark Tully report in "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The renewed violence in the Tamil-dominated north of Sri Lanka has been going on now for 2 weeks. A number of the island's security forces have fallen victim to bombings apparently carried out by Tamil separatists. Police stations and banks have been attacked.

The counterterrorist campaign conducted by the Sri Lankan Army, however, seems to have gone out of control and beyond the bounds of normal security operations. It appears there has been a widescale breakdown in Army discipline, with soldiers going on the ramapage in revenge attacks. Mark Tully is in Colombo:

[Begin Tully recording] When six soldiers were killed in a bomb explosion on Saturday near the northern town of Mannar, police warned shopkeepers to close and leave the bazaar. They knew that on past forms Sri Lankan Army was likely to take revenge. Some soldiers did 24 hours later. They burned and looted shops and opened fire on civilians in four different places.

This shows that the steps taken by the powerful national security minister over the last few months to step up discipline in the Army have not worked. The bishop of Mannar said to me the Army is as brutal as ever. If the national security minister cannot rely on the Army, it is difficult to see how he can maintain any sort of offensive against the terrorists. The Army is the only force he has at his disposal. The local police are demoralized and the loyalty of many Tamil members of the force is questionable. From talking to Tamil police and Tamil officials in the north, I found that there's very little sympathy for any suggestion of a military solution to the problem of the separatist guerrillas, but that is the solution the minister is committed to. [end recording]

Residents To Be Compensated

BK151126 Hong Kong AFP in English 1055 GMT 15 Aug 84

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 15 (AFP) — Sri Lankan soldiers were responsible for the burning of 123 shops in the northwestern town of Mannar last Sunday and Monday, Transport Minister M.H. Mohamed told the Cabinet today.

Mr Mohamed, who returned here from the north yesterday, handed in his report to the government.

Minister of State Anandatissa de Alwis meanwhile said that Mannar residents who lost their property during the rampage would receive up to 50,000 rupees ($2,000) in compensation.

The Cabinet appointed a sub-committee consisting of the national security minister, the transport minister and Mannar's district minister M. Mahroof to implement proposals suggested by Mr Mohamed in his report.

Sunday's violence in Mannar, 312 kilometers (195 miles) northwest of here, left two civilians dead. It followed the deaths of six soldiers when their vehicle hit a land mine on Mannar road on Saturday.

Over the past 11 days, some 90 people, mostly minority Tamils, have been killed in clashes between Tamil separatist militants and security forces in the country's north.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali is due to fly to Mannar shortly to review the situation.

The government said it was trying to establish why some of the soldiers set Mannar shops ablaze more than 24 hours after their colleagues were killed in the mine blast.

Mr de Alwis said that ultra-Marxist groups such as the People's Liberation Front (JVP), which launched Sri Lanka's 1971 insurrection, could be "directing young soldiers" who may have incited others.

While warning that left-wing elements had infiltrated the Army, Mr de Alwis stressed that indiscipline was not widespread within the Armed Forces.

Earlier Mr Athulathmudali declared the Mannar incident "utterly regrettable" and promised that "no attempt whatsoever will be made to cover up the tragedy."

Yesterday Mr Athulathmudali reiterated that if soldiers were involved they would be severely dealt with under military regulations.

After compensation is paid to Mannar residents, the security minister said he would discuss with the Army commander what sort of inquiry should be held to ascertain who among the soldiers were responsible for the arson.

There were no reports of fresh incidents in the north of the island today for the first time since August 4 when Tamil separatists and security forces clashed leaving five people dead and sparking off the current wave of violence.

For the past 11 days there have been daily reports of actions by separatists and counterattacks by security forces. Separatists have been accused of attacks on public buildings, bank robberies and raids on police stations.

Opposition sources have accused security forces of bombing villages and carrying out reprisal raids.

Most observers believe the present lull — probably to give the separatists time to regroup and rearm — will not last more than 24 hours.

Government sources said they expected more attacks within the next few days. They also expected the separatists to try to make political capital out of a meeting later this week in Geneva of the United Nations Subcommission on Human Rights where the Tamil issue is to be raised.

The position of India, with its large Tamil community, is another element in the crisis. Leaders of the southern Tamil Nadu state were believed to be putting pressure on the central government to intervene in Sri Lanka's Tamil ethnic conflict.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in an address today marking India's 37th independence day said "India does not want to interfere, but the situation in Sri Lanka is very, very grave."

Majlis Approves 15 Ministers, Rejects 5

LD142040 Tehran IRNA in English 2035 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, August 14, IRNA — After two-days of debate the Majlis gave a vote of confidence to 15 ministers of prime minister Hoseyn Musavi's Cabinet and rejected five.

In the voting which ended moments ago ministers of energy, construction jihad, commerce, labour, Islamic guidance, PTT, IRGC, roads and transport, oil, interior, foreign affairs, heavy industries, mines and metals, agriculture and economics and finance won the Majlis vote.

However, ministers of defence, education, industries, health and culture and higher education did not receive the required 50 percent plus one vote of those present in the Majlis.

Ministers of education and culture and higher education were among those receiving the most criticism in yesterday's debate.

The following are the names of approved ministers and the number of votes received (first number is votes received, second votes against and third abstentions):

1 — Roads and transport, Mohammad Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, (190), (6), (12)
2 — Energy, Dr. Hasan Ghafuri-Fard, (179), (11), (18)
3 — Foreign Affairs, Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, (166), (23), (17)
4 — Labour, Abolqasem Sarhadizadeh, (162), (19), (23)
5 — Construction Jihad, Bijan Zangen, (161), (16), (27)
6 — Islamic Guidance, Hoj. Mohammad Khatami, (158), (28), (19)
7 — Commerce, Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari, (156), (29), (23)
8 — Oil, Mohammad Gharazi, (154), (23), (29)
9 — IRGC, Mohsen Rafiqdust, (154), (28), (23)
10 — Agriculture, 'Abbas Zali, (141), (26), (35)
11 — PTT, Morteza Nabavi, (140), (43), (24)
12 — Interior, Hoj. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, (107), (69), (29)
13 — Economics and Finance, Hoseyn Namazi, (106), (38), (56)
14 — Mines and Metals, Hoseyn Nili-Ahmadabadi, (106), (38), (60)
15 — Heavy Industries, Behzad Nabavi, (106), (65), (32)

Following are ministers who did not receive the Majlis vote of confidence:

1 — Health, Dr. Hadi Manafi, (102), (53), (46)

2 — Education, 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh, (99), (81), (25)

3 — Defence, Col. Mohammad Salimi, (97), (57), (51)

4 — Industries, Mostafa Hashemi, (62), (90), (53)

5 — Culture and Higher Education, Mohammad 'Ali Najafi, (51), (89), (64)

The Majlis will debate three new ministers — housing, information and justice — in its next session.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,819

LD141616 Tehran IRNA in English 1559 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 14, IRNA — At least 46 enemy soldiers were killed and wounded and many of their artillery pieces were shattered in sporadic exchange of artillery fire throughout the fronts Monday, according to a military communique published here today.

The communique released by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and numbered 1819 said that over Monday the Iranian troops also destroyed 26 artillery emplacements and surveillance posts of the Iraqi forces in the various parts of the battlefronts. In Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umran, Sar Dasht and Marivan, artillery fighting flared up inflicting considerable losses on the enemy soldiers.

In the western fronts the Iranian troops checked the operations of the enemy troops, wrecked four of the enemy vehicles, while artillery fire also continued more intensely in battle fronts near Mehran.

In the southern battlefronts the Iranian troops set ablaze one enemy ammunitions depot, killing and wounding an undetermined number of the Iraqi troops. In the battle fronts near Abadan, Iran's Muslim combatants checked enemy movements and killed or wounded at least 16 Iraqi soldiers.

Meanwhile, 13 houses and shops were damaged upon being hit by Iraqi shells Monday and two spots in the city caught fire under the Iraqi long-range artillery fire from across the border.

Diplomats Urged To Disprove Propaganda

LD141640 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 14, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani today called on Iranian diplomats abroad to exploit every possible means for disproving the falsehood of defamatory and hostile propaganda which are frequently published against the Islamic Republic by many foreign media.

Rafsanjani who was speaking to a group of homecoming Iranian diplomats assigned to Asian countries and Oceania noted also that while "the enemies of the Islamic Republic" have somehow admitted that Iran has been invaded and victimised in the Iraq-Iran war, they are still adamant in their refusal to make any public confession to that effect.

He invited Iran's foreign envoys to utilize the print and broadcast media as well as every other opportunity in the country of their assignment in order that the masses in those countries may discriminate between facts and inimical propaganda about the Islamic republic.

Turkish State Minister Arrives in Tehran

LD141726 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 14, IRNA — Turkish Minister of State in Charge of Economic Affairs Ismail Ozdaglar arrived here today

heading a delegation from his country. At the airport here he told reporters that during his stay in Iran he would hold talks with the Iranian officials in relation with an economic agreement in principle signed between Iran and Turkey in May 1983.

An official of Iran's Ministry of Heavy Industries Morteza Hajebi said that the visit to Tehran of the Turkish delegation was within the framework of an earlier agreement for the expansion of relations between the two countries.

According to a letter of understanding signed between Iran and Turkey in May last year, trade exchanges between the two countries are expected to amount to over 2.3 billion dollars. Turkey is to export manufactured products to Iran against its imports from Iran of oil, wool, skin and hides, caviar, mineral stones and copper.

Official Criticizes Saudi Treatment of Pilgrims

LD142158 Tehran in English to Europe 2030 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'niha, the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims to the House of God [Mecca], yesterday in a meeting with the Saudi Arabian Minister of Hajj and Endowments, which was held in Medina, pointed to the problems which are created for Iranian hajj pilgrims right from their arrival in Saudi Arabia.

He referred to the disrespect shown by Saudi officials to the holy Koran and their action in tearing up prayer books and books on hajj rituals belonging to Iranian pilgrims which are regarded as permitted books by the Saudi Government, and added: Naturally, Iranian pilgrims to the House of God view these actions as those of the Saudi Government.

The Saudi minister of Hajj and Endowments in this meeting which was held in the representative office of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution, in Medina while presenting the greetings to King Fahd, expressed hope that the problems of Iranian hajj pilgrims will soon be solved.

The imam's representative and the supervisor of the Iranian hajj pilgrims while expressing his thanks in response referred to a letter which was sent to Saudi officials last year in connection with problems facing Iranian pilgrims and added that no practical action has been taken to solve these problems. Referring to the fact that the public opinion of the Muslims should remain calm and that the feeling should exist that we and you are the real servants of Islam and the Muslims stressed that negative propaganda in the Saudi Arabian press against the Islamic Republic of Iran during the hajj rituals could not go without a reaction among the pilgrims. [sentence as heard]

Friday Prayers Secretariat Condemns Canal Mining

LD142206 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 14, IRNA — The Secretariat of the International Congress of Friday and Congregational Prayers Leaders today condemned the mining of the Suez Canal and described it as a plot by Washington for creating political crisis and at the same time displaying its power to the American people.

The Secretariat expressed hope that the Muslim leaders of congregational prayers throughout the world would open the eyes of the world to the "satanic plots" of the big powers and thereby thwart their designs on the peoples of the world.

IRNA Cites Libyan Paper on Red Sea Mining

LD141111 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21 [date as received], IRNA — The attribution of the mining of the Suez Canal and Red Sea to Iran and Libya is U.S., Zionism, and reactionary Egyptian government's propaganda and plotting, their objective being to distort public opinion from the main criminal actions, wrote Libyan newspaper, *AL-ZAHF AL-AHZAR* in its editorial on Monday issue.

It also wrote that direct advantages of Iran and Libya lay in the security of the Suez Canal and the Red Sea and in prevention of the domination of Zionism and imperialism in this area.

Mining of Nicaraguan shores by a U.S. espionage organization undoubtedly leads as well the public opinion of the world to the real identification of U.S. criminal action in the Suez Canal mining also, recalls the Libyan newspaper.

Emigre Paper Reports Release of Tabari

GF141030 London KEYHAN in Persian 26 Jul 84 P 16

[Excerpt] Tehran — Ehsan Tabari, member of the Central Committee and Political Bureau of the Tudeh Party and its ideologue, has been released from prison. He was released several days after his television interview. Officials of the Islamic Republic have not mentioned his release. However, Asadollah Lajvardi, Islamic revolution prosecutor who effectively runs Evin prison, said recently: In Evin University a fervent communist like Ehsan Tabari has been turned into a Muslim in 2 months — the sort of Muslim who can quote the Holy Koran from memory and state opinions about Islam's rules and regulations.

Tabari, whose supposed heart attack occurred in prison, is one of the few Marxist Iranian writers and researchers who has a knowledge of the history of Islam in Iran and has written articles about it.

Free Voice of Iran on Changes to Khomeyni's Will

GF141852 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports from the Islamic Majlis that during last month, Khomeyni's will was removed from the Majlis vaults twice and taken to Jamaran.

The sealed will of Khomeyni was opened again in Jamaran and after some changes were made personally by Khomeyni in a section of the will, it was returned to the Islamic Majlis. Our correspondent cites reliable sources in the Islamic Majlis that

following the deterioration of Khomeyni's condition at the end of the month of Tir [22 June-22 July], Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who is at the head of the regime's moderate faction, asked Khomeyni to make certain changes in the will. Although the context of the changes has not transpired, according to reliable sources in the Islamic Majlis, it is possible that Khomeyni has added a (?clause) therein.

Tehran Notes Developments in Oil Market

GF150700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0450 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Unattributed commentary: "The International Oil Market is Undergoing New Changes"]

[Excerpts] During the last few days we have been witnessing new developments and movements in connection with the international oil market and OPEC. The trip by OPEC delegations, formed by oil ministers of member countries, to both OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries and the news of the delivery of around 40 million barrels of oil by Saudi Arabia in exchange for 10 Boeing 747 aircraft are among such developments. In general, following the 1973 changes in oil prices and their remarkable increase, industrial countries started a strong propaganda campaign against oil-producing countries. The industrial countries accused OPEC of irresponsibility and the creation of an imbalance in the international economy in their propaganda.

The policies advocated by Saudi Arabia on longterm pricing were based on pricing tied to the export indicators of industrial countries. The Islamic Republic of Iran in turn proposed controls over all OPEC production and a pricing policy on the basis of the import indicators of OPEC members and international interest rates. Considering the above disagreement and other important issues that cannot all be mentioned in this short review, OPEC has so far been unable to establish a longterm policy on crude oil pricing.

However, knowing that oil does not last indefinitely and that the economy of all OPEC members is dependent on oil, then the establishment of a longterm oil policy in order to create relative stability in the market is a matter of vital importance. There are various views in this respect and these should be debated by special committees. During the recent 70th OPEC conference, the plan for longterm pricing policies was again discussed with minor changes and its recommendations were approved. These recommendations were concerned with brining about the necessary conditions in order to clearly establish a correct longterm strategy to be approved by OPEC members.

However, despite the OPEC delegation's visits, the international oil market continues to be sluggish. In addition to the high levels of production by non-OPEC oil-producing countries, the higher dollar rates and the amount of stored oil to the international market have reduced prices. The news of the Saudi deal with the Boeing Company has further reduced prices. Thus the price of heavy Saudi crude dropped from $29 to $26.5 per barrel. The barter agreement exchanges 10 Boeing 747's and 40 Rolls Royce engines — valued at $1 billion — for 40 million barrels of Saudi oil. This was to be given to Boeing Company over the next 2 years beginning in December 1984.

In the opinion of oil experts, this quantity of oil will be sold for as much as $2 per barrel below official OPEC prices. As far as one can ascertain from the contract, the 10 Boeing 747's are to be used for military purposes. This is not the first time that Saudi Arabia has put the interests of oil companies and the United States ahead of OPEC members.

During the past few years Saudi Arabia has been one of the biggest creators of the international oil glut. During last year, by increasing its output, Saudi Arabia paid a large portion of Iraq's debts for arms purchase from France and the Soviet Union. This had adverse effects on the international oil market. Considering Saudi reserves of $120 billion, it could have easily purchased the 10 Boeings for cash. However, bringing another 40 million barrels of oil onto the confused international oil market in exchange for the Boeing aircraft clearly shows the duplicity of Saudi policies with U.S. oil companies.

In any case, this Saudi action only increases the crisis in the international oil market and reduces prices.